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**Carnegie Endowment for International Peace**

**DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

**Pamphlet No. 21**

**THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF 1906 FOR THE  
AMELIORATION OF THE CONDITION  
OF THE WOUNDED IN ARMIES  
IN THE FIELD**

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## Preface

The present pamphlet, dealing with the Geneva Convention of 1906 for the amelioration of the condition of the wounded in armies in the field, is issued by the Division of International Law of the Endowment in continuation of the series of pamphlets of the Conventions signed at The Hague in 1899 and 1907. As was stated in the prefaces of the earlier pamphlets, the great interest at the present time attaching to international agreements relating to the conduct of warfare, and the need for accurate information as to the ratifications of and adhesions and reservations to these agreements, have led the Endowment to prepare the series in order that the public may learn, from reliable and easily accessible sources, the status of the Conventions and the extent to which the Powers now at war are bound by their provisions.

Through the courtesy of his Excellency, Doctor Paul Ritter, the Swiss Minister Plenipotentiary at this Capital, the Endowment has received precise and complete information as to the dates of the ratifications and adhesions appearing on pages 13 and 14 from the Political Department of the Swiss Government, to which were submitted proof-sheets for its comment. In this connection it will be observed that in the cases of some ratifications, two dates are given; the explanation being that since there might, in the view of the Swiss Government, be some doubt as to which date should be accepted for the deposit when the instrument of ratification is forwarded by post to the Swiss Federal Council, and as a result the date of mailing by the ratifying State and the date of the receipt of the document by the Swiss Federal Council are not the same, the Swiss Government has in such cases put both dates upon the record of delivery.

The English translation of the original French text of the Convention and the final protocol of the conference which prepared it reproduces the official translation of the Department of State, except that an occasional mistranslation or typographical error has been corrected.

The Geneva Convention of 1906 is, as stated in the preamble thereof, a revision of the original Red Cross Convention concluded at Geneva August 22, 1864. The conference which drafted the Convention of 1864 was official in nature and, although only representatives of Baden, Belgium, Denmark, France, Hesse, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal,

Prussia, Spain, Switzerland, and Württemberg, signed the Convention resulting from its labors, nearly every other sovereign State subsequently acceded to it, so that it became undoubted international law. The conference itself was due to the untiring efforts and perseverance of two high-minded Swiss gentlemen, Henri Dunant and Gustave Moynier. In 1868 a second official conference met at Geneva and drafted the so-called additional articles, that is to say, articles to be added to the original Convention of 1864, of which Articles 6 to 14 apply to maritime warfare. The so-called additional articles were not ratified. They served, however, as the basis of the Convention for the Adaptation to Maritime Warfare of the Principles of the Geneva Convention, drafted at the First Hague Peace Conference in 1899. The Hague Conference also recommended that the original Convention of 1864 concerning the wounded in war on land should be revised, and that because of the Swiss initiative this should be done under the auspices of Switzerland. As a result, Switzerland called a conference, which met at Geneva in 1906 and drafted the Convention printed in this pamphlet.

JAMES BROWN SCOTT,  
*Director of the Division of International Law.*

WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
*February 5, 1916.*



CONVENTION FOR THE AMELIORATION OF THE CONDITION OF  
THE WOUNDED IN ARMIES IN THE FIELD

Signed at Geneva, July 6, 1906

His Majesty the German Emperor, King of Prussia; His Excellency the President of the Argentine Republic; His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Bohemia, etc., and Apostolic King of Hungary; His Majesty the King of the Belgians; His Royal Highness the Prince of Bulgaria; His Excellency the President of the Republic of Chile; His Majesty the Emperor of China; His Majesty the King of the Belgians, Sovereign of the Kongo Free State; His Majesty the Emperor of Korea<sup>1</sup>; His Majesty the King of Denmark; His Majesty the King of Spain; the President of the United States of America; the President of the United States of Brazil; the President of the United Mexican States; the President of the French Republic; His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Emperor of India; His Majesty the King of the Hellenes; the President of the Republic of Guatemala; the President of the Republic of Honduras; His Majesty the King of Italy; His Majesty the Emperor of Japan; His Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Luxemburg, Duke of Nassau; His Highness the Prince of Montenegro; His Majesty the King of Norway; Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands; the President of the Republic of Peru; His Imperial Majesty the Shah of Persia; His Majesty the King of Portugal and of the Algarves., etc., His Majesty the King of Roumania; His Majesty the Emperor of All the Russias; His Majesty the King of Serbia; His Majesty the King of Siam; His Majesty the King of Sweden; the Swiss Federal Council; the President of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay,

Contracting Parties.

Being equally animated by the desire to lessen the inherent evils of warfare as far as is within their power, and wishing for this purpose to improve and supplement the provisions agreed upon at Geneva

Scope of Convention.

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<sup>1</sup>See footnote, p. 14.

on August 22, 1864, for the amelioration of the condition of the wounded in armies in the field,

Have decided to conclude a new convention to that effect, and have appointed as their plenipotentiaries, to wit:

Plenipotentiaries.

His Majesty the German Emperor, King of Prussia: His Excellency the Chamberlain and actual Privy Councilor A. von Bülow, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Berne, General of Brigade Baron von Manteuffel, Medical Inspector and Surgeon General Dr. Villaret (with rank of general of brigade), Dr. Zorn, Privy Councilor of Justice, ordinary professor of law at the University of Bonn, Solicitor of the Crown;

His Excellency the President of the Argentine Republic: His Excellency Mr. Enrique B. Moreno, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Berne, Mr. Molina Salas, Consul General in Switzerland;

His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Bohemia, etc., and Apostolic King of Hungary: His Excellency Baron Heidler von Eger-egg and Syrgenstein, actual Privy Councilor, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Berne;

His Majesty the King of the Belgians: Colonel of Staff Count de T'Serclaes, Chief of Staff of the Fourth Military District;

His Royal Highness the Prince of Bulgaria: Dr. Marin Rousseff, Chief Medical Officer, Captain of Staff Boris Sirmanoff;

His Excellency the President of the Republic of Chile: Mr. Augustin Edwards, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary;

His Majesty the Emperor of China: His Excellency Mr. Lou Tseng Tsiang, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to The Hague;

His Majesty the King of the Belgians, Sovereign of the Kongo Free State: Colonel of Staff Count de T'Serclaes, Chief of Staff of the Fourth Military District of Belgium;

His Majesty the Emperor of Korea<sup>1</sup>; His Excellency Mr. Tsunetada Kato, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brussels;

His Majesty the King of Denmark: Mr. Laub, Surgeon General, Chief of the Medical Corps of the Army;

<sup>1</sup>See footnote, p. 14.

His Majesty the King of Spain : His Excellency Mr. Silverio de Baguer y Corsi, Count of Baguer, Minister Resident ;

The President of the United States of America : Mr. William Cary Sanger, former Assistant Secretary of War of the United States of America, Vice-Admiral Charles S. Sperry, president of the Naval War College, Brigadier General George B. Davis, Judge Advocate General of the Army, Brigadier General Robert M. O'Reilly, Surgeon General of the Army ;

The President of the United States of Brazil : Dr. Carlos Lemgruber Kropf, Chargé d'Affaires at Berne, Colonel of Engineers Roberto Trompowski Leitão d'Almeida, Military Attaché to the Brazilian Legation at Berne ;

The President of the United Mexican States : General of Brigade José Maria Perez ;

The President of the French Republic : His Excellency Mr. Révoil, Ambassador to Berne, Mr. Louis Renault, member of the Institute of France, Minister Plenipotentiary, Jurisconsult of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, professor in the Faculty of Law at Paris, Colonel Olivier of Reserve Artillery, Chief Surgeon Pauzat of the Second Class ;

His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Emperor of India : Major General Sir John Charles Ardagh, K. C. M. G., K. C. L. E., C. B., Professor Thomas Erskine Holland, K. C., D. C. L., Sir John Furley, C. B., Lieutenant Colonel William Grant Macpherson, C. M. G., R. A. M. C. ;

His Majesty the King of the Hellenes : Mr. Michel Kebedgy, professor of international law at the University of Berne ;

The President of the Republic of Guatemala : Mr. Manuel Arroyo, Chargé d'Affaires at Paris, Mr. Henri Wiswald, Consul General to Berne, residing at Geneva ;

The President of the Republic of Honduras : Mr. Oscar Hoepfl, Consul General to Berne ;

His Majesty the King of Italy : Marquis Roger Maurigi di Castel Maurigi, Colonel in His Army, Grand Officer of His Royal Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, Major General Giovanni Randone, Military Medical Inspector, Commander of His Royal Order of the Crown of Italy ;

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan : His Excellency Mr. Tsunetada Kato, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Brussels ;

His Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Luxemburg, Duke of Nassau: Staff Colonel Count de T'Serclaes, Chief of Staff of the Fourth Military District of Belgium;

His Highness the Prince of Montenegro: Mr. E. Odier, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Swiss Confederation in Russia, Colonel Mürset, Chief Surgeon of the Swiss Federal Army;

His Majesty the King of Norway: Captain Daae, of the Medical Corps of the Norwegian Army;

Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands: Lieutenant General (retired) Jonkheer J. C. C. den Beer Poortugael, member of the Council of State, Colonel A. A. J. Quanjier, Chief Medical Officer, First Class;

The President of the Republic of Peru: Mr. Gustavo de la Fuente, First Secretary of the Legation of Peru at Paris;

His Imperial Majesty the Shah of Persia: His Excellency Mr. Samad Khan Momtaz-os-Saltaneh, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Paris;

His Majesty the King of Portugal and of the Algarves, etc.: His Excellency Mr. Alberto d'Oliveira, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Berne, Mr. José Nicolau Raposo-Botelho, Colonel of Infantry, former Deputy, superintendent of the Royal Military College at Lisbon;

His Majesty the King of Roumania: Dr. Sache Stephanesco, Colonel of Reserve;

His Majesty the Emperor of All the Russias: His Excellency Privy Councilor Martens, permanent member of the Council of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia;

His Majesty the King of Serbia: Mr. Milan St. Markovitch, Secretary General of the Ministry of Justice, Colonel Dr. Sondermayer, Chief of the Medical Division of the War Ministry;

His Majesty the King of Siam: Prince Charoon, Chargé d'Affaires at Paris, Mr. Corragioni d'Orelli, Counselor of Legation at Paris;

His Majesty the King of Sweden: Mr. Sörensen, Chief Surgeon of the Second Division of the Army;

The Swiss Federal Council: Mr. E. Odier, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Russia, Colonel Mürset, Chief Surgeon of the Federal Army;

The President of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay: Mr. Alexandre Herosa, Chargé d'Affaires at Paris,

Who, after having communicated to each other their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed on the following:

CHAPTER I.—*The Sick and Wounded*

ARTICLE 1

Officers, soldiers, and other persons officially attached to armies, who are sick or wounded, shall be respected and cared for, without distinction of nationality, by the belligerent in whose power they are. Treatment of wounded, etc., prisoners.

A belligerent, however, when compelled to leave his sick or wounded in the hands of his adversary, shall leave with them, so far as military conditions permit, a portion of the personnel and matériel of his sanitary service to assist in caring for them. Wounded left in the hands of an adversary.

ARTICLE 2

Subject to the care that must be taken of them under the preceding article, the sick and wounded of an army who fall into the power of the other belligerent become prisoners of war, and the general rules of international law in respect to prisoners become applicable to them. To be considered prisoners of war.

The belligerents remain free, however, to mutually agree upon such clauses, by way of exception or favor, in relation to the wounded or sick as they may deem proper. They shall especially have authority to agree— Belligerents may agree:

1. To mutually return the sick and wounded left on the field of battle after an engagement. To mutually return sick and wounded.
2. To send back to their own country the sick and wounded who have recovered, or who are in a condition to be transported and whom they do not desire to retain as prisoners. To send home those who have recovered.
3. To send the sick and wounded of the enemy to a neutral State, with the consent of the latter and on condition that it shall charge itself with their internment until the close of hostilities. To send sick, etc., to neutral State.

## ARTICLE 3

Protection from robbery, etc.

After every engagement the belligerent who remains in possession of the field of battle shall take measures to search for the wounded and to protect the wounded and dead from robbery and ill-treatment.

He will see that a careful examination is made of the bodies of the dead prior to their interment or incineration.

## ARTICLE 4

Disposal of identification papers, etc.

As soon as possible each belligerent shall forward to the authorities of their country or army the marks or military papers of identification found upon the bodies of the dead, together with a list of names of the sick and wounded taken in charge by him.

Notifications of internments, etc.

Belligerents will keep each other mutually advised of internments and transfers, together with admissions to hospitals and deaths which occur among the sick and wounded in their hands. They will collect all objects of personal use, valuables, letters, etc., which are found upon the field of battle, or have been left by the sick or wounded who have died in sanitary formations or other establishments, for transmission to persons in interest through the authorities of their own country.

## ARTICLE 5

Appeal to charity of inhabitants.

Military authority may make an appeal to the charitable zeal of the inhabitants to receive and, under its supervision, to care for the sick and wounded of the armies, granting to persons responding to such appeals special protection and certain immunities.

CHAPTER II.—*Sanitary Formations and Establishments*

## ARTICLE 6

Protection to sanitary establishments.

Mobile sanitary formations (*i. e.*, those which are intended to accompany armies in the field) and the fixed establishments belonging to the sanitary service shall be protected and respected by belligerents.

## ARTICLE 7

Exceptions.

The protection due to sanitary formations and establishments ceases if they are used to commit acts injurious to the enemy.

## ARTICLE 8

A sanitary formation or establishment shall not be deprived of the protection accorded by Article 6 by the fact—

1. That the personnel of a formation or establishment is armed and uses its arms in self-defense or in defense of its sick and wounded.

2. That in the absence of armed hospital attendants, the formation is guarded by an armed detachment or by sentinels acting under competent orders.

3. That arms or cartridges, taken from the wounded and not yet turned over to the proper authorities, are found in the formation or establishment.

Rights to protection not affected.

Defense of wounded, etc., allowed.

Armed guards permitted.

Undelivered arms, etc., of wounded.

CHAPTER III.—*Personnel*

## ARTICLE 9

The personnel charged exclusively with the removal, transportation, and treatment of the sick and wounded, as well as with the administration of sanitary formations and establishments, and the chaplains attached to armies, shall be respected and protected under all circumstances. If they fall into the hands of the enemy they shall not be considered as prisoners of war.

Protection to the personnel of sanitary formations.

These provisions apply to the guards of sanitary formations and establishments in the case provided for in section 2 of Article 8.

Guards included.

## ARTICLE 10

The personnel of volunteer aid societies, duly recognized and authorized by their own governments, who are employed in the sanitary formations and establishments of armies, are assimilated to the personnel contemplated in the preceding article, upon condition that the said personnel shall be subject to military laws and regulations.

Protection to the personnel of volunteer aid societies.

Each State shall make known to the other, either in time of peace or at the opening, or during the progress of hostilities, and in any case before actual employment, the names of the societies which it has authorized to render assistance, under its responsibility, in the official sanitary service of its armies.

Notification before actual employment.

## ARTICLE 11

Services of sanitary personnel of a neutral State restricted.

Notice to enemy.

A recognized society of a neutral State can only lend the services of its sanitary personnel and formations to a belligerent with the prior consent of its own government and the authority of such belligerent. The belligerent who has accepted such assistance is required to notify the enemy before making any use thereof.

## ARTICLE 12

Continuance of service after capture.

To be returned to their own country.

Persons described in Articles 9, 10, and 11 will continue in the exercise of their functions, under the direction of the enemy, after they have fallen into his power.

When their assistance is no longer indispensable they will be sent back to their army or country, within such period and by such route as may accord with military necessity. They will carry with them such effects, instruments, arms, and horses as are their private property.

## ARTICLE 13

Pay and allowance.

While they remain in his power, the enemy will secure to the personnel mentioned in Article 9 the same pay and allowances to which persons of the same grade in his own army are entitled.

CHAPTER IV.—*Matériel*

## ARTICLE 14

Use and restitution of captured matériel.

If mobile sanitary formations fall into the power of the enemy, they shall retain their matériel, including the teams, whatever may be the means of transportation and the conducting personnel. Competent military authority, however, shall have the right to employ it in caring for the sick and wounded. The restitution of the matériel shall take place in accordance with the conditions prescribed for the sanitary personnel, and, as far as possible, at the same time.

## ARTICLE 15

Use of buildings, etc., of fixed establishments restricted.

Buildings and matériel pertaining to fixed establishments shall remain subject to the laws of war, but can not be diverted from their use so long as they are necessary for the sick and wounded. Commanders of troops engaged in operations, however, may use them, in case of



important military necessity, if, before such use, the sick and wounded who are in them have been provided for.

#### ARTICLE 16

The matériel of aid societies admitted to the benefits of this convention, in conformity to the conditions therein established, is regarded as private property, and, as such, will be respected under all circumstances, save that it is subject to the recognized right of requisition by belligerents in conformity to the laws and usages of war.

Matériel of aid societies regarded as private property.

#### CHAPTER V.—*Convoys of Evacuation*

##### ARTICLE 17

Convoys of evacuation shall be treated as mobile sanitary formations subject to the following special provisions:

Convoys of evacuation.

1. A belligerent intercepting a convoy may, if required by military necessity, break up such convoy, charging himself with the care of the sick and wounded whom it contains.

Treatment of intercepted convoys.

2. In this case the obligation to return the sanitary personnel, as provided for in Article 12, shall be extended to include the entire military personnel employed, under competent orders, in the transportation and protection of the convoy.

Return of military personnel employed.

The obligation to return the sanitary matériel, as provided for in Article 14, shall apply to railway trains and vessels intended for interior navigation which have been especially equipped for evacuation purposes, as well as to the ordinary vehicles, trains, and vessels which belong to the sanitary service.

Railway trains, etc.

Military vehicles, with their teams, other than those belonging to the sanitary service, may be captured.

Military vehicles, etc., may be captured.

The civil personnel and the various means of transportation obtained by requisition, including railway matériel and vessels utilized for convoys, are subject to the general rules of international law.

Civil personnel, etc.

#### CHAPTER VI.—*Distinctive Emblem*

##### ARTICLE 18<sup>1</sup>

Out of respect to Switzerland the heraldic emblem of the red cross on a white ground, formed by the reversal of the federal colors, is

Distinctive emblem of sanitary service.

<sup>1</sup>See reservations of Persia and Turkey, *post*, p. 15.

continued as the emblem and distinctive sign of the sanitary service of armies.

#### ARTICLE 19

Used by permission of military authority.

This emblem appears on flags and brassards as well as upon all matériel appertaining to the sanitary service, with the permission of the competent military authority.

#### ARTICLE 20

Use of the brassard.

The personnel protected in virtue of the first paragraph of Article 9, and Articles 10 and 11, will wear attached to the left arm a brassard bearing a red cross on a white ground, which will be issued and stamped by competent military authority, and accompanied by a certificate of identity in the case of persons attached to the sanitary service of armies who do not have military uniform.

#### ARTICLE 21

Display of Red Cross flag restricted.

The distinctive flag of the Convention can only be displayed over the sanitary formations and establishments which the Convention provides shall be respected, and with the consent of the military authorities. It shall be accompanied by the national flag of the belligerent to whose service the formation or establishment is attached.

Sanitary formations which have fallen into the power of the enemy, however, shall fly no other flag than that of the Red Cross so long as they continue in that situation.

#### ARTICLE 22

Use of flag by sanitary formations of neutrals.

The sanitary formations of neutral countries which, under the conditions set forth in Article 11, have been authorized to render their services, shall fly, with the flag of the Convention, the national flag of the belligerent to which they are attached. The provisions of the second paragraph of the preceding article are applicable to them.

#### ARTICLE 23

Use of distinctive emblem in time of war and peace.

The emblem of the red cross on a white ground and the words "Red Cross" or "Geneva Cross" may only be used, whether in time of peace or war, to protect or designate sanitary formations and establishments, the personnel and matériel protected by the Convention.

CHAPTER VII.—*Application and Execution of the Convention*

## ARTICLE 24

The provisions of the present Convention are obligatory only on the contracting Powers, in case of war between two or more of them. The said provisions shall cease to be obligatory if one of the belligerent Powers should not be signatory to the Convention.

Provisions obligatory only on contracting Powers.

## ARTICLE 25

It shall be the duty of the commanders-in-chief of the belligerent armies to provide for the details of execution of the foregoing articles, as well as for unforeseen cases, in accordance with the instructions of their respective governments, and conformably to the general principles of this Convention.

Details of execution of Convention.

## ARTICLE 26

The signatory Governments shall take the necessary steps to acquaint their troops, and particularly the protected personnel, with the provisions of this Convention and to make them known to the people at large.

Notice to troops, etc.

CHAPTER VIII.—*Repression of Abuses and Infractions*

## ARTICLE 27

The signatory Powers whose legislation may not now be adequate engage to take or recommend to their legislatures such measures as may be necessary to prevent the use, by private persons or by societies other than those upon which this Convention confers the right thereto, of the emblem or name of the Red Cross or Geneva Cross, particularly for commercial purposes by means of trade-marks or commercial labels.

Legislation to prevent improper use of emblem, etc.

The prohibition of the use of the emblem or name in question shall take effect from the time set in each act of legislation, and at the latest five years after this Convention goes into effect. After such going into effect, it shall be unlawful to use a trade-mark or commercial label contrary to such prohibition.

Effect.

## ARTICLE 28

In the event of their military penal laws being insufficient, the signatory Governments also engage to take, or to recommend to their

Repression, in time of war, of robbery, etc.

legislatures, the necessary measures to repress, in time of war, individual acts of robbery and ill-treatment of the sick and wounded of the armies, as well as to punish, as usurpations of military insignia, the wrong use of the flag and brassard of the Red Cross by military persons or private individuals not protected by the present Convention.

Notification  
of repressive  
measures.

They will communicate to each other through the Swiss Federal Council the measures taken with a view to such repression, not later than five years from the ratification of the present Convention.

### *General Provisions*

#### ARTICLE 29

Ratification and  
deposit of  
original.

The present Convention shall be ratified as soon as possible. The ratifications will be deposited at Berne.

Certified copies  
to Powers.

A record of the deposit of each act of ratification shall be prepared, of which a duly certified copy shall be sent, through diplomatic channels, to each of the contracting Powers.

#### ARTICLE 30

Operative six  
months after  
date of deposit.

The present Convention shall become operative, as to each Power, six months after the date of deposit of its ratification.

#### ARTICLE 31

Convention  
of August  
22, 1864,  
superseded.

The present Convention, when duly ratified, shall supersede the Convention of August 22, 1864, in the relations between the contracting States.

Exception.

The Convention of 1864 remains in force in the relations between the parties who signed it but who may not also ratify the present Convention.

#### ARTICLE 32

What Powers  
may sign.

The present Convention may, until December 31, proximo, be signed by the Powers represented at the Conference which opened at Geneva on June 11, 1906, as well as by the Powers not represented at the Conference who have signed the Convention of 1864.

Extension of  
date for  
signatures.

Such of these Powers as shall not have signed the present Convention on or before December 31, 1906, will remain at liberty to accede to it after that date. They shall signify their adherence in a written

notification addressed to the Swiss Federal Council, and communicated to all the contracting Powers by the said Council.

Other Powers may request to adhere in the same manner, but their request shall only be effective if, within the period of one year from its notification to the Federal Council, such Council has not been advised of any opposition on the part of any of the contracting Powers. Adhesion of other Powers.

#### ARTICLE 33

Each of the contracting Parties shall have the right to denounce the present Convention. This denunciation shall only become operative one year after a notification in writing shall have been made to the Swiss Federal Council, which shall forthwith communicate such notification to all the other contracting parties. Denunciation.

This denunciation shall only become operative in respect to the Power which has given it.

In faith whereof the plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention and affixed their seals thereto. Signing.

Done at Geneva, the sixth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and six, in a single copy, which shall remain in the archives of the Swiss Confederation and certified copies of which shall be delivered to the contracting Parties through diplomatic channels. Deposit of original.  
Certified copies to Powers.

[Here follow signatures.]

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#### RATIFICATIONS, ADHESIONS AND RESERVATIONS

The foregoing Convention was *ratified* by the following signatory Powers on the dates indicated:<sup>1</sup>

Austria-Hungary . . . . .	March 27, 1908
Belgium . . . . .	August 27, 1907
Brazil . . . . .	June 18, 1907
Bulgaria . . . . .	May 30/June 3, 1912
Chile . . . . .	September 6, 1909
Denmark . . . . .	June 11, 1907
France . . . . .	July 19, 1913
Germany . . . . .	May 27, 1907
Great Britain . . . . .	April 16, 1907
Guatemala . . . . .	March 25/26, 1912
Honduras . . . . .	November 27, 1911

<sup>1</sup>Where two dates are given, the first is the date of mailing by the ratifying State, and the second that of receipt of the document by the Swiss Federal Council.

Italy . . . . .	March 9, 1907
Japan . . . . .	April 23, 1908
Kongo . . . . .	April 16, 1907
Luxemburg . . . . .	August 27, 1907
Mexico . . . . .	June 4, 1907
Netherlands . . . . .	July 31, 1908
Norway . . . . .	November 24/29, 1909
Portugal . . . . .	July 12, 1911
Roumania . . . . .	August 3, 1911
Russia . . . . .	February 9, 1907
Serbia . . . . .	September 17/October 9, 1909
Siam . . . . .	January 29, 1907
Spain . . . . .	October 11, 1907
Sweden . . . . .	July 11/13, 1911
Switzerland . . . . .	April 16, 1907
United States . . . . .	February 9, 1907

*Adhesions:*

Colombia . . . . .	October 28, 1907
Costa Rica . . . . .	July 29, 1910
Cuba . . . . .	March 17, 1908
Nicaragua . . . . .	June 17, 1907
Paraguay . . . . .	December 4, 1909
Salvador . . . . .	September 28, 1911
Turkey . . . . .	August 24, 1907
Venezuela . . . . .	July 8, 1907

The following Powers signed the Convention but have not yet ratified:

Argentine Republic	Montenegro
China	Persia
Greece	Peru
Korea <sup>1</sup>	Uruguay

<sup>1</sup>By a Declaration dated October 15, 1906, the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires at Berne stated that, in virtue of the Agreement between Japan and Korea of November 17, 1905, the Imperial Japanese Government has the right of entirely controlling the foreign relations and affairs of Korea. Consequently the inclusion of Korea in the preamble of the Convention and the signature of the latter by the Japanese plenipotentiary on behalf of Korea as a separate contracting Party, being erroneous and incompatible with the aforesaid arrangement, are considered by the Japanese Government as null and void.

*Reservations:*

## Great Britain

With reservation of Articles 23, 27 and 28.<sup>1</sup>

## Persia

With reservation of Article 18.<sup>2</sup>

## Turkey

With the reservation that their armies will make use of the emblem of the red crescent for the protection of their ambulances.<sup>3</sup>

## Japan and Korea, and China

[From the official minutes<sup>4</sup> of the meeting of July 5, 1906, it appears that reservations, not referred to in the convention document itself, were made by Japan and Korea as to Article 28, and by China as to Articles 27 and 28.]

*Extract from the procès-verbal:*

Mr. Kato made the following declaration: The Japanese Government is not at present disposed to engage itself to prepare a military penal law in application of Article 28 of the Convention. It therefore makes a reservation on the subject of that provision.<sup>5</sup>

Mr. Lou Tseng-tsiang read the following declaration: The Government of Peking being now occupied with a revision of the legislation of the Empire, it would find it very difficult, before completing that work, to prepare new laws. Therefore I believe that I ought to declare here that I shall sign the new Convention under reservation of Articles 27 and 28, while hoping that our revised legislation will subsequently and in good time be completed by the addition of a new prohibitory law in conformity with the spirit of the above-mentioned clauses.

<sup>1</sup>Reservation made at signature. A declaration withdrawing this reservation was signed at Berne, July 7, 1914.

<sup>2</sup>Reservation made at signature. In place of the Red Cross on a white field, Persia substitutes the Red Lion with the Red Sun on a white field as the emblem of its military sanitary service.

<sup>3</sup>Reservation contained in the act of adhesion.

<sup>4</sup>*Actes de la conférence de révision réunie à Genève du 11 juin au 6 juillet 1906* (Geneva, 1906), p. 238.

<sup>5</sup>This reservation was withdrawn by Japan in the instrument of ratification.

FINAL PROTOCOL OF THE CONFERENCE FOR THE REVISION  
OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION

Signed at Geneva, July 6, 1906

Convocation  
of conference.

The Conference called by the Swiss Federal Council, with a view to revising the international Convention of August 22, 1864, for the amelioration of the condition of soldiers wounded in armies in the field, met at Geneva on June 11, 1906. The Powers hereinbelow enumerated took part in the Conference to which they had designated the delegates hereinbelow named.

Countries  
and delegates.

[Here follow the names of countries and delegates.]

Convention  
framed.

In a series of meetings held from the 11th of June to the 5th of July, 1906, the Conference discussed and framed, for the signatures of the plenipotentiaries, the text of a Convention which will bear the date of July 6, 1906.

Resolution that  
differences as  
to interpreta-  
tion be referred  
to the Perma-  
nent Court of  
Arbitration  
at The Hague.

In addition, and conformably to Article 16 of the Convention for the peaceful settlement of international disputes, of July 29, 1899, which recognized arbitration as the most effective and at the same time, most equitable means of adjusting differences that have not been resolved through the diplomatic channel, the Conference uttered the following *vœu*:

The Conference expresses the wish that, in order to arrive at as exact as possible an interpretation and application of the Geneva Convention, the contracting Powers will refer to the Permanent Court at The Hague, if permitted by the cases and circumstances, such differences as may arise among them, in time of peace, concerning the interpretation of the said Convention.

Adopting  
States.

This *vœu* was adopted by the following States:

Germany, Argentine Republic, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Kongo, Denmark, Spain (*ad referendum*), United States of America, Brazil, France, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Luxemburg, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Norway, the Netherlands, Peru,



Persia, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Serbia, Siam, Sweden, Switzerland and Uruguay.

The *vau* was rejected by the following States:

Korea, Great Britain and Japan.

Rejecting  
States.

In witness whereof the delegates have signed the present Protocol.

Signing.

Done at Geneva, the sixth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and six, in a single copy which shall be deposited in the archives of the Swiss Confederation and certified copies of which shall be delivered to all the Powers represented at the Conference.

Deposit  
of original.

Certified copies  
to Powers.

[Here follow signatures.]









